

for addition (step 909). Otherwise, only the selected parameter is identified for addition (step 910).

After the parameters have been identified for addition, the list of displayed parameters is removed (step 911). If a parameter was not selected (step 912) an error will result (step 913). If a parameter was selected, a source field list will be displayed (step 914) such as list 173 of FIG. 5. A source is then selected (step 915) and assigned to the parameter (step 916).

Following the source selection, the OK and CANCEL options (items 176 and 174, respectively, of FIG. 5) are displayed (step 917). If the OK option is selected (step 918), the parameter is added to the patient list (step 919). If the OK option is not selected, the display is removed (step 920). From this point, the process continues (step 921).

If the add option is not selected from the add/delete menu (step 905), the system will display a list of current parameters (step 922) from which a parameter to be deleted may be selected (step 923).

The process then determines if the parameter is a macro parameter (step 924). If the parameter is a macro parameter, the macro parameter and its associated parameters are selected for removal (step 925). If the parameter is not a macro parameter, the parameter is selected for removal (step 926). The display list is then removed (step 927). If no parameters were selected (step 928), an error will result (step 929). If a parameter was selected, a warning is issued (step 930) and an OK/CANCEL option is provided (step 913).

If the OK option is selected (step 932), the parameter is deleted (step 933). Following the deletion, or if the OK option is not selected, the display is removed (step 934) and the process continues (step 935).

DISCUSSION OF APPENDIX

The APPENDIX provides a pseudo-code listing of the software for adding and/or deleting a parameter and a macro-parameter.

It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that the disclosed invention may be modified in numerous ways and may assume many embodiments other than the preferred form specifically set out and described above.

For example, the selection and number of parameters which may be utilized on a Form may be determined to meet the particular requirements of the system users and the patients.

Accordingly, it is intended by the appended claims to cover all modifications of the invention which fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

APPENDIX

PSEUDO-CODE FOR ADDING/DELETING A PARAMETER OR MACRO-PARAMETER.

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Display Add_Parameter pop-up form
Case (parameter field selected):
  Generate list of candidate parameters as logical Exclusive
  OR of (all possible parameters for Vital Signs Form) and
  (parameters assigned to currently selected patient)
  Display list to screen
  EndCase
Case (choice from parameter list selected):
  If (parameter is a macro-parameter)
    add chosen parameter and all associated parameters to
    the list of parameters for the patient
  Else
    add chosen parameter to list of parameters for the
    patient
  Remove parameter list from screen
  Move cursor to source field
  EndCase
  
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APPENDIX-continued

PSEUDO-CODE FOR ADDING/DELETING A PARAMETER OR MACRO-PARAMETER.

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5 Case (Source field selected):
  If (value has been entered into parameter field)
    Generate list of candidate sources assigned to
    parameter entered in parameter field
    Display list to screen
  EndIf
  Else
    Display error message to user
  EndCase
10 Case (choice from source list selected)
  Assign selected source to currently entered parameter
  Move cursor to parameter field
  EndCase
15 Case (OK icon selected)
  Commit new parameter(s) to parameter list for current
  patient
  Remove pop-up form from screen
  EndCase
20 Case (CANCEL icon selected)
  Remove pop-up form from screen
  EndCase
  
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What is claimed is:

1. In a medical information system comprising a processing unit, a memory unit, and a terminal unit wherein said terminal unit comprises display means for displaying a patient medical information form to a terminal user and input means for said terminal user to enter patient information into said system and to provide commands to said system, a method of customizing said patient medical information form comprising:

- (a) providing to said system an indication of a patient identity using said input means;
- (b) providing to said terminal user, via said display means, said patient medical information form relating to said patient identity;
- (c) selecting a parameter operation, said parameter operation including adding a new parameter to said patient medical information form or deleting a selected parameter from said patient medical information form;
- (d) performing said parameter operation by deleting said selected parameter if said deleting parameter operation was selected in step (c); and
- (e) performing said parameter operation by adding said new parameter if said adding parameter operation was selected in step (c).

2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the option provided in step (c) is in response to the entry of an appropriate command by said terminal user.

3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein in step (c) said parameter is a macro parameter, and wherein in steps (d) or (e) the performance of said parameter operation causes an associated parameter to be added or deleted automatically with said macro parameter.

4. In a medical information system comprising a processing unit, a memory unit, and a terminal unit wherein said terminal unit comprises display means for displaying a patient medical information form to a terminal user and input means for said terminal user to enter patient information into said system and to provide commands to said system, a method of customizing said patient medical information form comprising:

- (a) providing an indication of a patient identity using said input means;
- (b) providing to said terminal user, via said display means, patient information relating to said patient